

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 8, with the following amended paragraph:

B¹ **FIG. 3** illustrates ~~an exemplary network architecture used to implement elements of the present invention~~ a radio signal including its sub-carrier in the frequency domain.

Please amend the paragraph beginning ~~on page 7, line 10,~~ with the following amended paragraph:

B² **FIG. 4** illustrates ~~another exemplary network architecture used to implement elements of the present invention~~ an external view of a portal device according to one embodiment of the invention.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 12, with the following amended paragraph:

B³ **FIG. 5** illustrates ~~a radio signal including its sub-carrier in the frequency domain~~ an internal view of a portal device according to one embodiment of the invention.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 14, with the following amended paragraph:

B⁴ **FIG. 6** illustrates an external view of a portal device according to one embodiment of the invention a process according to one embodiment of the invention wherein a user is logged in to a portal server.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 16, with the following amended paragraph:

B⁵ **FIG. 7** illustrates an internal view of a portal device according to one embodiment of the invention a visual programming interface according to one embodiment of the invention.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 18, with the following amended paragraph:

B⁶ **FIG. 8** illustrates a process according to one embodiment of the invention wherein a user is logged in to a portal server key exchange operations employed in one embodiment of the invention.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 1, with the following amended paragraph:

B⁷ **FIG. 9** illustrates a visual programming interface according to one embodiment of the invention a network architecture including a content conversion module according to one embodiment of the invention.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 9, with the following amended paragraph:

B⁸
Elements of the present invention may be included within a client-server based architecture ~~100 such as that illustrated in Figure 1.~~ According to the one ~~embodiment depicted in Figure 1,~~ a portal server 110 communicates with clients 140 and other network servers 130 over a network 120 (e.g., the Internet). The network 120 over which the clients 140 and servers 110, 130 transmit and receive data may be comprised of any combination of private (e.g., leased) and/or public communication channels. These may include, for example, Digital Signal ("DS") channels (e.g., DS-3/T-3, DS-1/T1), Synchronous Optical Network ("SONET") channels (e.g., OC-3/STS-3), Integrated Services Digital Network ("ISDN") channels, Digital Subscriber Line ("DSL") channels, cable modem channels and a variety of wireless communication channels including satellite broadcast and cellular channels.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 21, with the following amended paragraph:

B⁹
In addition, various networking protocols may be used to support communication across the network 120 including, for example, the Asynchronous Transfer Mode ("ATM"), Ethernet, and Token Ring (at the data-link level); as well as Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol ("TCP/IP"), Internetwork Packet Exchange ("IPX"), AppleTalk and DECnet (at the network/transport level).

B⁹ It should be noted, however, that the principles of the invention are not limited to any particular communication channel or protocol.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 6, with the following amended paragraph:

B¹⁰ The portal server 440 in one embodiment includes a user database for storing various types of user configuration and account data. Users may register and login to the portal server 440 from a client 440 by specifying a user ID and/or password. According to one embodiment, a user connects to the servers 440, 430 via a browser application such as Netscape Navigator™ or Microsoft Internet Explorer™ which communicates via the Hypertext Transfer Protocol (hereinafter "HTTP").

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 13, with the following amended paragraph:

B¹¹ In one embodiment, users may configure the portal server 440 to retrieve and manage specific types of information. For example, a user may configure the portal server 440 to retrieve up-to-date stock quotes for a specified set of stocks (e.g., reflecting the user's portfolio), to collect the weather forecast for the user's hometown, and/or to retrieve recent articles relating to a particular sports franchise. The portal server will then retrieve the specified information from other servers (e.g., server 430) on behalf of the user.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 20, with the following amended paragraph:

B 12
In addition to information retrieval and management, in one embodiment the portal server 440 also provides application services such as email, online scheduling (e.g., appointments, to-do lists, etc), instant messaging, contact management, word processing and a variety of other online services. Users may access these services by logging in to the portal server 440 with a valid user ID and password. In one embodiment, the portal server 440 generates a unique, personalized Web page for each user containing links to all, or a subset of, the information and/or services subscribed to by the user.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 7, with the following amended paragraph:

B 13
In one embodiment, a portal device 450 stores and processes user-specified information and/or programs as well as non-user-specified information/programs (e.g., targeted advertisements based on the user's profile). The information/programs may be transmitted to the portal device 450 through the client 440, and/or directly via wireless broadcast (as illustrated in Figure 2 and described in detail below). Thus, the portal device 450 in this embodiment is a removable extension of the portal server 440, storing a subset of the information and services maintained by the portal server 440 on behalf of the user. For example, a user may configure the portal server 440 to periodically download the user's to-do list (or other scheduling data) to the portal device (e.g.,

B¹³
every morning, every two hours, every time the user connects the portal device to the client 440, etc). When the user leaves the office, he/she can simply take the portal device with him/her and view his/her schedule throughout the day.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on ~~page~~ 11, line 21, with the following amended paragraph:

B¹⁴
The timing of the information/program download may depend on the particular embodiment of the portal device 450. For example, if a wireless embodiment is used (described below) downloads may occur at any time when the portal device 450 is within wireless transmission range, whereas if a non-wireless embodiment is used, downloads may be limited to periods of time when the portal device 450 is connected to the portal server 440.

Please amend the ~~paragraph~~ beginning on page 12, line 5, with the following amended paragraph:

B¹⁵
In one embodiment, the user may customize the portal device 450 preferences and content which will be downloaded to the portal device 450 from the portal server 440. This may be accomplished, for example, by selecting certain preferences/content from a portal server 440 Web page (e.g., by using an online programming interface as described below). For example, the user may choose to have each day's to-do list downloaded to his portal device 450 and may also program the device 450 (e.g., via the portal server 440) to continually display the next scheduled event for the day. Various other user interface and

B¹⁵ content-based data may be transmitted to the portal device 450 from the portal server 440 while still complying with the underlying principles of the invention.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 16, with the following amended paragraph:

B¹⁶ As illustrated in ~~Figure 1~~, one One embodiment of the portal device 450 communicates to the portal server 440 via a communication link 460 with the client 440. The communication link may be established via a physical I/O connection with the client 440 such as a Universal Serial Bus ("USB") interface or a communication ("serial") interface. Alternatively, the communication link 460 may be a wireless link such as an Infrared I/O channel or a radio frequency ("RF") I/O channel.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 1, with the following amended paragraph:

B¹⁷ In one particular embodiment, the client link 460 is formed using a capacitively-coupled communication channel. As is known in the art, a capacitor is any dielectric sandwiched between two conductive elements. In this embodiment, one of the two conductive elements is located within the portal device 450 and the second of the two conductive elements is located external to the portal device 450 and is communicatively coupled to an I/O port of the client 440. For example, in one embodiment, the second conductive element may be disposed within user's mouse pad. According to this embodiment, the user may

B17
simply place the portal device on the mouse pad to set up the capacitive communication link ~~160~~ with the client 140. It should be noted, however, that various other client links ~~160~~ may be employed while still complying with the underlying principles of the invention.

Please amend the paragraph ~~beginning~~ on page 13, line 14, with the following amended paragraph:

B18
In one embodiment, ~~illustrated in Figure 2,~~ data and/or programs are transmitted to the portal device 150 from the portal server 140 over an RF link 220. In this embodiment, the organization maintaining the portal server 140 and/or implementing other features of the system and method described herein (hereinafter the "portal organization" or "PO"), may lease a portion of the RF transmission bandwidth from one or more radio stations 240. It should be noted, however, that various RF transmission techniques may be used without departing from the underlying principles of the invention.
